FALL ARMYWORM
(Spodoptera frugiperda)

PEST

CURRENT AT MARCH 2020

Type	Frequency	Seriousness	Attention	Stage	Risk Factors
FALL ARMYWORM	**NEW PEST**	**MAJOR**	**CRITICAL**	**Larvae Attack Leaves/Stem/Fruit**	**Spread by flight, wind, people movement**

EGGS 2-3 DAYS

- Pale yellow and clustered together in a mass
- Egg measures about 0.4 mm in diameter and 0.3 mm in height
- An egg mass can contain 100–200 eggs
- Egg masses are usually attached to foliage in a mound, with a silk-like furry substance
- Duration of the egg stage is only two to three days during the summer months

LARVAE 14-22 DAYS

- There usually are six instars in fall armyworm
- Larvae range from 1.7mm in 1st instar to 34.2mm in final instar
- As they develop, they become a darker greyish-brown with white lengthwise stripes and dark spots with spines on their upper surface, with a pale underside
- Older larvae have a distinctive pattern of 4 spots on the second to last body segment and an inverted 'Y' shape pattern on their heads

PUPAE 7-13 DAYS

- Pupation normally takes place in the soil, at a depth 2 to 8 cm
- The larva constructs a loose cocoon, oval in shape and 20 to 30 mm in length, by tying together particles of soil with silk
- If the soil is too hard, larvae may web together leaf debris and other material to form a cocoon on the soil surface
- The pupa is reddish brown in colour, and measures 14 to 18 mm in length and about 4.5 mm in width

ADULTS 10-21 DAYS

- Moth, 15–20mm with a 32–40mm wingspan
- Brown or grey forewing and a white hind wing
- Male fall armyworm moths have more patterns and a distinct white spot on each forewing

PLANT DAMAGE IS DONE BY LARVAL STAGE

- Larvae initially feed on leaves, creating pinholes and windows in leaf tissue, and giving leaf margins a tattered appearance
- Larvae can also eat buds and tunnel into and feed on fruit
- Larger larvae can cut plants off at the base
- When they are found in large numbers, they can defoliate preferred host plants and acquire an 'armyworm' habit and disperse in large numbers

Destruction of crops can happen rapidly when infestation levels are high

This emergency permit has been issued by the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA):

Permit ID	PER89241
Description	Spinetoram (Success Neo or Delegate) / Fall Armyworm / Various Crops
Date Issued	6-Mar-20
Expiry Date	31-Mar-23
Permit holder	Hort Innovation

Please follow all directions on the applicable Success Neo or Delegate label.

All efforts have been made to provide the most current, complete and accurate information on these permits, however we recommend that you confirm the details of these permits at the following APVMA website: https://portal.apvma.gov.au/permits

If you suspect FALL ARMYWORM on your farm, you should IMMEDIATELY contact THE QLD DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES ON 13 25 23 EARLY DETECTION AND REPORTING ARE ESSENTIAL.

Hort Innovation Strategic levy investment | PASSIONFRUIT FUND

Queensland Government

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